

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 01072 221936Z
ACTION CPR-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 /008 W
-----230753Z 078571 /20

R 221830Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO USCOMSOLANT
INFO USDAO CARACAS
SECSTATE WASHDC 595

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1072

SUBJECT: UNITAS 18 PLANNING

REF: (A) USCOMSOLANT 201205Z APR 77 (NOTAL)
(B) USCOMSOLANT 181300Z MAR 77
(C) USCOMSOLANT 181315Z MAR 77

1. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ADVISE THAT USCOMSOLANT ASSUME THAT T&T COAST GUARD WILL WISH TO CONDUCT TRAINING OPERATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH APPROACH OF UNITAS FLEET TO TRINIDAD WATERS NOVEMBER 15-16, ALONG LINES DISCUSSED IN 1976. THIS DESIRE WAS FIRMLY EXPRESSED TO ME EARLIER THIS YEAR BY T&T COAST GIARD COMMANDANT WILLIAMS DURING OUR INITIAL DISCUSSION OF TENTATIVE NOVEMBER ARRIVAL OF UNITAS.

2. COMMANDER WILLIAMS IS CURRENTLY OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND WE WILL RENEW DISCUSSIONS WITH HOM UPON HIS RETURN LATER THIS MONTH, BUT PLANNING FOR CONSULTATION IN JUNE SEEMS BOTH FEASIBLE AND DESIRABLE. BELIEVE YOU SHOULD SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO PORT OF SPAIN, SINCE IT IS VERY DIFFICULT FOR T&T CG TO OBTAIN SUCH TRAVEL FUNDS, IF YOU WISH TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC DATE, I WILL CONFIRM HERE AND WE WILL BE GLAD TO FACILITATE ARRANGEMENTS.

3. NORMALLY WE DO NOT SEEK SPECIFIC FORMAL CLEARANCE FOR
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UNITAS FLEET VISIT THIS FAR IN ADVANCE, SINCE COMPOSITION AND OTHER DETAILS NOT YET KNOWN, BUT WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE PROBLEMS. DIFFICULTIES LAST YEAR AROSE FROM COMBINATION OF : A) LOCAL ELECTIONS; B) PARTICIPATION OF VENEZUELAN AND BRAZILIAN UNITS; C) DISTORTED PRESS COVERAGE STEMMING FROM COMSOLANT PRESS RELEASE SEEMINGLY TO MAKE TTCG A PART OF UNITAS EXERCISE INVOLVING CHILE AND

OTHERS; AND D) UNTIMELY ABSENCE OF SENIOR T&T COAST
GUARD OFFICERS AT TIME CONTROVERSY STRUCK.

4. THERE IS LONG RECORD OF FELICITOUS UNITAS VISITS TO
PORT OF SPAIN WHICH I TRUST WILL BE CONTINUED. IF FLEET
UNITS TO VISIT HERE ARE TO INCLUDE OTHER NATIONAL
COMPONENTS, HOWEVER, PLEASE ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
AND URGE UPON OTHER NAVIES CONCERNED NECESSITY OF
EARLY COORDINATION THROUGH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN
PORT OF SPAIN. DILATORINESS OF VENZUELAN NAVY IN
AUTHORIZING ANY COORDINATION HERE LAST YEAR WAS PROBABLY
THE CRITICAL ELEMENT WHICH LED TO VISIT BECOMING
UNSTUCK.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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